

To: Chairman Upton & Ranking Member Pallone

CC's To Chairman Pitts, Ranking Member Green, & Rep. Degette

THE FLAG & GENERAL OFFICERS' NETWORK, Inc., an official 501.c.19 War Veterans Organization representing three quarters of all living U. S. Armed Forces Flag & General Officers (Guard, Reserve and Retired), writes to thank you for your leadership in addressing the threat of antibiotic resistance.

As the House considers provisions to its 21 Century Cures initiative, we want to reiterate our strong support for Section 2121 (Approval of Certain Drugs for use in a Limited Population of Patients). This section will facilitate the development of much-needed antibiotics to address the growing threat of drug-resistant superbugs.

Section 2121 will direct the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to create a new approval pathway to develop new antibiotics for patients with few or no other treatment options. Because the pathway allows certain antibiotics to be approved after being studied in limited populations, clinical trials may be more feasible and development time shortened.

Safeguards are in place to ensure proper usage of these drugs. The antibiotics' labels will indicate the drugs are intended only for a limited population, FDA will review promotional materials, and the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) will monitor usage.

This legislation is crucial because drug-resistant bacteria are infecting our military, veterans and fellow citizens at an alarming rate and, in far too many cases, we do not have the drugs to treat them. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) estimates that 2,000,000 infections with antibiotic-resistant bacteria occur each year in the United States and 23,000 Americans die as a result.

Those who serve in our military are at particular risk. More than a third of wounded warriors injured in Iraq and Afghanistan developed a bacterial or fungal infection. And, according to Pentagon data, about 10 percent of military recruits get a skin infection, often caused by resistant bacteria.

Too many of our shipmates and soldiers have died because of untreatable superbugs. Without swift action, more will meet the same fate.

We salute your efforts and leadership in addressing this important issue. We urge you to take action and expedite the passage of this important legislation. Please know you have our continued thanks for your efforts on behalf of America's veterans and their families.

With all good wishes,

Jim Carey

Rear Admiral [Ret.] James J. Carey, National Chairman  
THE FLAG & GENERAL OFFICERS' NETWORK  
[www.FlagAndGeneralOfficersNetwork.org](http://www.FlagAndGeneralOfficersNetwork.org)



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Over 3700 U.S. Armed Forces Flag & General Officers  
In Continued Service To America!!!